

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 and 7-12 are pending in this application. Applicant appreciates the Office Action's indication that claims 2, 3 and 7 contain allowable subject matter. It is noted that claim 8 depends from claim 3. Thus, claim 8 should also be allowable at least in view of the patentability of claim 3, as well as for additional features it recites.

By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 4, 9 and 10 are amended for better clarity, and claim 6 is canceled. The specification is amended, as the Examiner requested. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicant thanks Examiner Lee for the courtesy extended to Applicant's representative, Mr. Luo, during the November 21, 2005 personal interview. The substance of the personal interview is incorporated in the following remarks.

The Office Action objects to the specification. The specification is amended, as the Examiner requested. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objects to the June 2, 2005 Amendment under 35 U.S.C. §132(a), asserting that new matter was introduced. This objection is respectfully traversed.

As discussed during the personal interview, the June 2, 2005 Amendment to change "increased" to "lowered" in the paragraph on page 21 was to correct a typographical error. As is described in the next sentence in the paragraph, "the more the number of through holes 37 for coupling adjustment is increased, the lower the degree of coupling becomes." Thus, it is obvious that providing the through hole 37 for coupling adjustment in a place where the magnetic field strength is high, the degree of coupling will be lowered, instead of increased. Therefore, no new matter was introduced in the June 2, 2005 Amendment. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the June 2, 2005 Amendment under 35 U.S.C. §132(a) is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. This rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of claim 6.

The Office Action objects to claims 1, 13 and 14. This objection is moot with regard to claims 13 and 14, because claims 13 and 14 are canceled.

Claim 1 is amended to overcome this objection. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to claim 1 is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 4-6, 8 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,982,256 to Uchimura et al. ("Uchimura"); rejects claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Uchimura; and rejects claims 9 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Uchimura in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,380,825 to Takenoshita et al. ("Takenoshita"). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

As discussed during the personal interview, Uchimura does not disclose or suggest a first waveguide having a ground electrode and a line pattern of a conductor, an end of the line pattern of the conductor is directly connected so as to be conductive to one of the ground electrodes of the second waveguide, as recited in claim 1.

In particular, Uchimura discloses in FIG. 17 that the end of a conductor pattern 96 is an open end due to slot hole 90. The end of the conductor 96 does not share the ground plane. Thus, the end of the conductor 96 is not short circuited.

Takenoshita does not disclose or suggest a first waveguide having a ground electrode and a line pattern of a conductor, wherein an end of the line pattern of the conductor is directly connected so as to be conductive to one of the ground electrodes of the second waveguide, as recited in claim 1. Thus, Takenoshita does not supply the subject matter like in Uchimura.

For at least the above reasons, Uchimura and Takenoshita, either individually or in combination, do not disclose or suggest the subject matter recited in claim 1, and claims 4, 5

and 8-12 depending therefrom. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1, 4, 5 and 8-12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and §103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-5 and 7-12 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:

Request for Continued Examination

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